



8th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new academic year, 2022-2023, which we know is going to be as busy as ever! We have decided to continue with this termly dates newsletter which had so much positive feedback from you all as parents and carers last academic year. Why change something that works..?

First, a quick staffing update! During the summer break, Miss Bourne (Teaching Assistant) decided that she wanted to spend more time with her family so we were sad to say farewell. Thank you Miss Bourne for all your hard work with Halling's children during your time here: you will be missed! We are interviewing for a Teaching Assistant this week and will, of course, keep you updated. On Monday next week, Miss Shanika Abrahams will start in Year R as an apprentice Teaching Assistant.

Next, on behalf of all the staff at Halling and particularly Miss Sorrell Bradley, Senior Administration Officer, I would like to say a HUGE thank you to you all for your patience during our switch to Arbor which has been made much easier by your kindness and understanding. 'Kindness Matters' at Halling and it has been highly-appreciated during a very challenging first few days back!

For those parents and carers who have paid for items and the funds have since disappeared following a 'blip' in Arbor's system (as previously communicated) we have heard from Arbor this morning that they will be directly refunding those payments in due course. For those parents and carers with credits, debits and vouchers in School Gateway, we are now in a position to begin transferring these across to Arbor and this will commence on Monday 12th September. Requests for any changes to wraparound care will be actioned following the transfer of funds. If you have emailed or telephoned in about the issues we would like to apologise if you have not yet heard back; please do rest assured that you are not being ignored! Sorrell and her team have been working round the clock to rectify the issues with Arbor which have, unfortunately, been out of our hands.

As always, if you have any questions please do catch me or a member of staff on the gate.

Best wishes,
Ms Lisa Taylor
Headteacher

Halling Primary School Diary Dates: Terms 1 & 2

| Day: | Event: | Additional Information: |
|---|--|---|
| Thursday 8th September | Year 3 and 4 AstroDome Visit at Halling | |
| Friday 9th September | Year 4 Parent and Carer Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:45pm in the Hall |
| Tuesday 13th September & Wednesday 14th September | Medway Test | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Registered Pupils |
| Wednesday 14th September | Year 4 Rescheduled Trip to Legoland | |
| Wednesday 14th September | Year 3 Parent and Carer Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:45pm in the Hall |
| Friday 16th September | PTA Christmas Card Design Afternoon | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helpers required so please email to sign up: PTA@halling.medway.sch.uk |
| Friday 16th September | National Teaching Assistants Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank you to all our TAs and HLTAs! |
| Thursday 22nd September | AAT Media Team Photograph Day at Halling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See page 9 of newsletter |
| Thursday 22nd September | PTA Annual General Meeting at Halling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30pm - 3:00pm |
| Thursday 29th September | AAT Dodgeball Tournament | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Mr Harrison |
| Thursday 29th September | Safeguarding Workshop with Mrs Tyler | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 and Year 6 Parents & Carers 2:00pm in the Hall |
| Thursday 29th September | Open Classroom for all Year Groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:20pm - 4:00pm |
| Friday 30th September | Staff Development Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children DO NOT attend! |

| Day: | Event: | Additional Information: |
|------------------------|---|--|
| The Month of October | Black History Month | |
| Tuesday 4th October | Harvest Festival | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halling are supporting Caring Hands Children and staff only Letter to follow from Miss Edwards |
| Wednesday 5th October | World Teachers Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank you to all our teachers! |
| Thursday 6th October | Census Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look out for Donna's special themed menu! |
| Friday 7th October | PTA Non-Uniform Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from the PTA |
| Tuesday 11th October | "Have Your Say!" Parent and Carer Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Thursday 13th October | Mini Youth Games Hockey Festival | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Mr Harrison |
| Friday 14th October | PTA Quiz Night | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from the PTA |
| Thursday 20th October | Show Racism the Red Card Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children wear red to school! Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Thursday 20th October | PTA Disco | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from the PTA |
| Thursday 20th October | Last Day of Term 1 | |
| Saturday 29th October | PTA Christmas Photo Shoot | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from the PTA |
| Tuesday 1st November | Staff Development Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children DO NOT attend! |
| Wednesday 2nd November | First Day of Term 2 | |
| Thursday 3rd November | Height and Weight Checks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year R and Year 6 |
| Tuesday 8th November | Individual School Photographs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No PE Kits to be worn this day - bring PE kit in a bag please if it's a PE day! Dress smartly (full school uniform) and remember to smile please! |
| Tuesday 8th November | Parent & Carer Consultation Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:30pm until 7:30pm Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Thursday 10th November | Mini Youth Games Basketball Festival | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Mr Harrison |
| Thursday 10th November | Parent & Carer Consultation Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:30pm until 6:00pm Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Friday 11th November | Remembrance Assembly | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and staff only |
| Saturday 12th November | Halling Primary Firework Display | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Wb: 14th November | Anti-Bullying Week | |
| Monday 14th November | Odd Socks Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Tuesday 15th November | AAT Netball Tournament | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Mr Harrison |

| Day: | Event: | Additional Information: |
|--|---|--|
| Friday 18th November | BBC Children in Need Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from the Comms. Team & Mrs Nott |
| Wb: 21st November | Road Safety Week | |
| Monday 28th November - Wednesday 30th November | PTA Sleigh Run Present Collection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from the PTA |
| Tuesday 29th November | Flu Immunisations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years R to 6 |
| Thursday 1st December | Mini Youth Games Badminton Festival | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Mr Harrison |
| Friday 2nd December | PTA Christmas Jar Competition Closes PTA Gift Bag Donation Non-Uniform Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from the PTA |
| Friday 9th December | Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Friday 9th December | PTA Christmas Fair | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:30pm until 4:30pm in the School Hall Letter to follow from the PTA |
| Monday 12th December | KS2 (Years 3-6) Christmas Celebration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:00pm @ St. John's Church - ticketed event Letter to follow from Miss Martin |
| Tuesday 13th December | Whole School Pantomime Trip part funded by the PTA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from Ms Taylor |
| Wednesday 14th December | KS2 (Years 3-6) Christmas Celebration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00am @ St. John's Church - ticketed event Letter to follow from Miss Martin |
| Wednesday 14th December | Christmas Dinner Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear your Christmas Jumper! |
| Wednesday 14th December | Early Years and KS1 (Years R-2) Christmas Nativity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:00pm @ School Hall - ticketed event Letter to follow from Miss Eakins |
| Thursday 15th December | Early Years and KS1 (Years R-2) Christmas Nativity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00am @ School Hall - ticketed event Letter to follow from Miss Eakins |
| Thursday 15th December | Christmas Talent Show | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and staff only |
| Friday 16th December | Christmas Party Afternoon for all Children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear your Christmas Party clothes to school Letter to follow from Miss Martin & Miss Eakins |
| Friday 16th December | Last Day of Term 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> |
| Saturday 17th December | PTA Sleigh Run | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to follow from PTA |
| Tuesday 3rd January | Staff Development Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children DO NOT attend! |
| Wednesday 4th January | First Day of Term 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> |

Why not follow us on Twitter for regular updates?

@HallingSch  @AletheiaAT  @HallingPta



Mid Kent
Motorcycle Training
01622 720774

Have Your Say Parent and Carer Meeting



Our first Have Your Say Meeting of the academic year is on Thursday 11th October at 09:00. We will be sending a letter out nearer the time with further details.

We look forward to welcoming you!



At Halling, we recognise that safeguarding and keeping children safe in school, at home and online is everybody's responsibility. We aim to be proactive rather than reactive and work with you in partnership to educate our children in ways of keeping themselves safe both in the real world and online.

We want to work with you as parents and carers to create bespoke safeguarding workshops for our children so if you have an idea please do speak with Mrs Tyler or email:

safeguarding@halling.medway.sch.uk

Open class

In Term 1, Open Class is on Thursday 29th September 3:20pm until 4:00pm.

This is an opportunity for your child to show you their classroom, their displays and perhaps some of the work they have been completing in their books.

Please note that your child's class teacher will be present, but this is not a formal meeting!



Howlsmere Close, Halling, Rochester, Kent, ME2 1ER
Telephone - 01634 240258 email - office@halling.medway.sch.uk

Safeguarding Team

The Safeguarding Team at Halling Primary School have a duty to monitor children who have been identified as having welfare or protection concerns and will notify Children's Services as soon as possible when there is a significant concern or risk to a child.

If you have any concerns about your child or any other pupil in the school, please speak to:



Ms Shona Eakins
Designated Safeguarding Lead
Assistant Headteacher & SENDCo



Ms Lisa Taylor
DDSL
Headteacher



Mrs Debbie Tyler
DDSL
Pastoral Lead



Mrs Tina Woolmer
DDSL
EYFS Teacher

Disclosures from pupils are referred to the designated adult responsible for Safeguarding. All cause for concerns must be made via Halling's online reporting system: CPOMS. If you believe that a child is at risk of immediate significant harm, please contact the DSL or DDSLs directly. An acknowledgement will be made.

Please note: all referrals must initially go through Ms Shona Eakins or Mrs Debbie Tyler, in Ms Eakins' absence. The Senior Leadership Team and Inclusion Team will have responsibilities regarding children under Social Services or with Child Protection issues.

We have an email account that has been set up specifically for safeguarding emails:

safeguarding@halling.medway.sch.uk

This email account is monitored daily by the DSL, Ms Shona Eakins and the DDSLs, Mrs Debbie Tyler and Ms Lisa Taylor.



School drop-off and pick-up times are always exceptionally busy which is one of the reasons why we have members of staff stationed at the gates. Please do keep a close eye on toddlers who can easily get lost in the sea of parents and carers, as we cannot always guarantee that a member of staff will be on the main car park gate.

On Thursday 29th September at 2:00pm Mrs Tyler is leading a workshop on all things 'Safeguarding' for parents and carers with children in Year 5 and Year 6.

The workshop will cover topics such as online safety, gangs and grooming, peer pressure and the effects of social media on mental health and wellbeing.

Please email Mrs Tyler at the safeguarding account: safeguarding@halling.medway.sch.uk if you would like to attend!





A message from one of our parents:

A couple of days after the school holidays started we realised we had left our scooter at school. We went to the school and there was the same brand/age scooter there but it was purple. My daughter's is dark pink - like the one shown here. After returning to school, I understand from the Site Team that someone else had also left their scooter and, over the holidays, had come to pick it up. The purple scooter is still left at the school every day. I'm wondering the person who came in picked up our dark pink one by mistake? It's a dark pink Mirco scooter aged 5-12 without the light up wheels!

If you think you have the wrong scooter, please let Sorrell in the office know. Thank you!



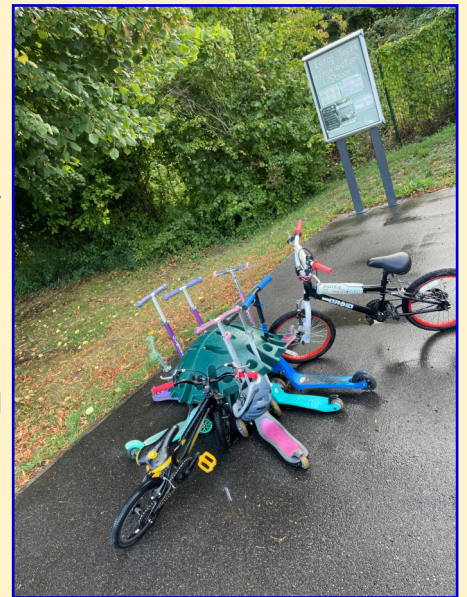
Thank
you
so
much!



Thank you to our PTA who recently funded the purchase of a third brand new 'scooter mushroom'!

This has now arrived and is located by the EYFS Notice Board.

Please may we take this opportunity to kindly request that scooters and bikes are 'walked' when on the school site. This ensures that everyone is kept as safe as can possibly be during our busy drop-off and pick-up times!



Playground Equipment

One of our Golden Rules at Halling is: We look after property.

At the beginning and end of the school day please can we kindly request that if younger children are playing with the playground equipment, such as the chess pieces and large connect four sets, that they look after them by putting the pieces back when they have finished!

Last academic year, we have invested a large sum of money into the purchase of this new equipment for the children and we want to ensure that pieces do not get lost, damaged or broken.

Thank you all for respecting this Golden Rule!



Unfortunately, we have already had a number of complaints from residents in the local community who live in the roads closest to our school.

We have also received a number of complaints from parents and carers who are highly concerned about the safety of Halling's children.

The school run is such a busy time and the roads closest to school always become heavily congested.

The complaints have been in respect of parents and carers parking inconsiderately on the kerb, grass verges and/or blocking driveways. This has, in turn, forced pedestrians to walk on the road and there have already been a few near misses.

There was even a car seen reversing off the grass verge and blocking the pathway for our families!

The last thing we want is for anyone to get hurt.

Please be respectful of our neighbours and school community and ensure that we are all working together to keep everyone safe.

We are waiting to hear from Medway regarding the Road Crossing Patrol which has been unsuccessfully filled.

Thank you!



KS2 Fruit Trolley!

Last year, a pupil voice 'Action Team' set up a healthy eating fruit and vegetable tuck shop for the children in Key Stage 2 - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

If your child is in one of these year groups and would like to buy a piece of fruit at morning break time, all items cost 30p.

This has been running since the beginning of this week and it will continue as long as there is demand!

PTA Christmas Card Afternoon

Friday 16th September from 1:30pm

Can you help support the children in classes?



If you can help out please email:
PTA@halling.medway.sch.uk



HALL FOR HIRE!

Did you know that our hall is available for hire for children's parties, quiz nights, charity events and more?

If you are interested, please get in touch for information on our competitive prices by emailing Jodie Simpson (Senior Finance Officer):

finance@halling.medway.sch.uk



TERM DATES: 2022- 2023

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Term 1 | Thursday 1 st September – Thursday 20 th October 2022 |
| Break | Friday 21st October – Tuesday 1st November 2022 |
| Term 2 | Wednesday 2 nd November – Friday 16 th December 2022 |
| Break | Monday 19th December – Tuesday 3rd January 2023 |
| Term 3 | Wednesday 4 th January – Friday 10 th February 2023 |
| Break | Monday 13th – Friday 17th February 2023 |
| Term 4 | Monday 20 th February – Friday 31 st March 2023 |
| Break | Monday 3rd – Monday 17th April 2023 Good Friday – 7th April 2023, Easter Monday – 10th April 2023 |
| Term 5 | Tuesday 18 th April – Friday 26 th May 2023 Bank Holiday – Monday 1st May 2023 |
| Break | Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023 |
| Term 6 | Monday 5 th June – Friday 21 st July 2023 |

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS & TRUST DAYS (CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND)

Friday 30th September 2022
 Tuesday 1st November 2022
 Tuesday 3rd January 2023
 Monday 20th March 2023
 Monday 17th April 2023
 Monday 3rd July 2023



Vision: Learning for Life

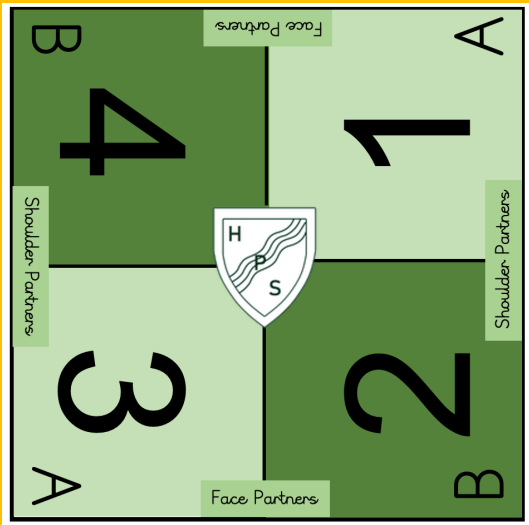
Values: Compassion – Integrity – Thankfulness – Respect – Resilience

Drivers: Curiosity – Aspiration – Diversity – Independence

Our improvement priorities in Halling’s 180 Day Plan for Terms 1-3 are as follows:

1. Improving Outcomes
2. Introducing and Embedding AAT Core ‘Pedagogy’ Principles
3. Developing and Strengthening Leadership at all Levels, including Governance
4. Early Years: Strengthening Provision and Outcomes
5. Strengthening the Curriculum across the School, including Wider Opportunities

Number 2 is all about ‘Kagan Structures’. Your child may have come home and talked about: Rally Robin, Round Robin and Think Pair Share! These are just some of the strategies we are now using in our lessons to enable the children to have a more active role in collaboration with their class mates. Research shows that this approach to teaching and learning helps with long term memory retention and, of course, it goes hand in hand with our Chris Quigley curriculum which is also designed around long term memory retention. You could ask your child if they have used the Kagan Mat below - can they explain it to you?



| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Aspiration | Our pupils will learn the importance of aiming high. It will allow them to recognise and explore all opportunities to them both now and in the future. In order to achieve their goals, our children will need to become resilient, reflective and persevering individuals in all that they do. |
| Curiosity | Our curriculum will inspire pupils to have the confidence to explore, investigate and immerse themselves in their creativity and learning. |
| Independence | At Halling, we want our pupils to be lifelong learners; independence is key for them to be able to reach this end goal. We aim to promote independence and perseverance for children to become confident citizens in the future. |
| Diversity | Our pupils will learn about their own identity and locality whilst becoming global citizens by exposing them to communities, cultures and ways of thinking which may different to their own. Thus, allowing our pupils to be empathetic to the experience of others. |

Last academic year, we made great strides in working together with you all as parents and carers at Halling Primary School to make positive changes for everyone.

'Your Voice Matters' to us and we can only continue to make these changes if we know about them so thank you for your comments, suggestions and possible solutions when you feel we haven't quite got things right! Thank you also for your positivity when we do get things right - it means a lot!

If you should have any worries or concerns, your child's class teacher should be your first port of call. Should you then wish to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team please email the office to make an appointment with either Miss Martin (Assistant Headteacher for KS2), Miss Eakins (Assistant Headteacher for KS1 & SENDCo) or Ms Taylor (Headteacher). You can, of course catch us on the gate too!

Our Complaints Policy can be found [here](#).

AAT Photograph Day



On Thursday 22nd September, the Media Team from Aletheia Academies Trust (AAT) are coming to Halling to take photographs of the children and staff, teaching and learning throughout the day.

These photographs could be used for display in and around the school, on the Trust website, on Halling's website, on our Twitter page/feed, in our prospectus or for other promotional material.

Thank you if you have already been on Arbor to tick the various photograph consents as these will be used to determine whether or not your child is photographed on this day and how these photographs will be used at Halling and across AAT.

Please note that school ties are now available in the office - £6 and card payments only please!



It's good to talk

During the school day, children have many opportunities to talk to adults if and when they need to. When talking may not be possible, we have two in-class initiatives that are followed across the school: 'Bubble Time' and 'Think Boxes'. For Bubble Time, your child can move their peg onto the 'talk bubble' to indicate that they would like to speak with an adult regarding an incident or problem. Similarly, the Think Box is for children to share their thoughts or ask a question by writing it down and posting it into the box. All children should be aware that any adult that is seen with a rainbow lanyard is a safe and approachable adult, equipped to deal with any concerns they have.



Vision: Learning for Life

Values: Compassion – Integrity – Thankfulness – Respect – Resilience

Drivers: Curiosity – Aspiration – Diversity – Independence



Halling Primary School PTA



AGM

Thursday 22nd September 22
1.30PM-3.00PM

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GET INVOLVED!

The PTA Need Your Support

Look out for our events throughout the year and give as much or little time as you can. Anything you can do will be much appreciated.

If you would like to be more involved with the PTA but are unable to attend then please email your name and contact number to
pta@halling.medway.sch.uk



Halling Primary - Reception Admissions: 2023-2024

You are invited to join us to meet some of our amazing staff and tour our wonderful school.

09:45 on 6th October, 13th October, 3rd November, 9th November, 17th November, 24th November, 1st December or 8th December

17:00 on 5th January or 12th January

If you've been for a tour and would then like to book a story time slot for your child, these will be bookable as follows:

14:45 on 7th October, 14th October, 4th November, 11th November, 18th November, 25th November, 2nd December, 9th December, 6th January or 13th January

Our Vision: Learning for Life

Our Values: Compassion - Integrity - Thankfulness - Respect - Resilience

**To book a place on one of our tours,
please contact us on: 01634 240258**

